

114TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1674

To amend and reauthorize certain provisions relating to Long Island Sound restoration and stewardship.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 24, 2015

Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. MURPHY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works

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# A BILL

To amend and reauthorize certain provisions relating to Long Island Sound restoration and stewardship.

**1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Long Island Sound  
3 Restoration and Stewardship Act”.

**4 SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS.**

5 (a) LONG ISLAND SOUND RESTORATION PRO-  
6 GRAM.—Section 119 of the Federal Water Pollution Con-  
7 trol Act (33 U.S.C. 1269) is amended—

8 (1) in subsection (b), by striking the subsection  
9 designation and heading and all that follows through  
10 “The Office shall” and inserting the following:

1           “(b) OFFICE.—

2           “(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Administrator  
3 shall—

4           “(A) continue to carry out the conference  
5 study; and

6           “(B) establish an office, to be located on  
7 or near Long Island Sound.

8           “(2) ADMINISTRATION AND STAFFING.—The  
9 Office shall”;

10          (2) in subsection (c)—

11           (A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1),  
12 by striking “Management Conference of the  
13 Long Island Sound Study” and inserting “con-  
14 ference study”;

15           (B) in paragraph (2)—

16           (i) in each of subparagraphs (A)  
17 through (G), by striking the commas at  
18 the end of the subparagraphs and inserting  
19 semicolons;

20           (ii) in subparagraph (H), by striking  
21 “, and” and inserting a semicolon;

22           (iii) in subparagraph (I), by striking  
23 the period at the end and inserting a semi-  
24 colon; and

(iv) by adding at the end the following:

3                   “(J) environmental impacts on the Long  
4                   Island Sound watershed, including—

5 “(i) the identification and assessment  
6 of vulnerabilities in the watershed;

7                             “(ii) the development and implementa-  
8                             tion of adaptation strategies to reduce  
9                             those vulnerabilities; and

“(iii) the identification and assessment of the impacts of sea level rise on water quality, habitat, and infrastructure; and

14                 “(K) planning initiatives for Long Island  
15                 Sound that identify the areas that are most  
16                 suitable for various types or classes of activities  
17                 in order to reduce conflicts among uses, reduce  
18                 adverse environmental impacts, facilitate com-  
19                 patible uses, or preserve critical ecosystem serv-  
20                 ices to meet economic, environmental, security,  
21                 or social objectives;”;

22 (C) by striking paragraph (4) and insert-  
23 ing the following:

24               “(4) develop and implement strategies to in-  
25               crease public education and awareness with respect

1 to the ecological health and water quality conditions  
2 of Long Island Sound;”;

3 (D) in paragraph (5), by inserting “study”  
4 after “conference”;

5 (E) in paragraph (6)—  
6 (i) by inserting “(including on the  
7 Internet)” after “the public”; and  
8 (ii) by inserting “study” after “con-  
9 ference”; and

10 (F) by striking paragraph (7) and insert-  
11 ing the following:

12 “(7) monitor the progress made toward meeting  
13 the identified goals, actions, and schedules of the  
14 Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan,  
15 including through the implementation and support  
16 of a monitoring system for the ecological health and  
17 water quality conditions of Long Island Sound;  
18 and”;

19 (3) in subsection (d)(3), in the second sentence,  
20 by striking “50 per centum” and inserting “60 per-  
21 cent”;

22 (4) by redesignating subsection (f) as sub-  
23 section (i); and

24 (5) by inserting after subsection (e) the fol-  
25 lowing:

1       “(f) REPORT.—

2           “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years  
3       after the date of enactment of the Long Island  
4       Sound Restoration and Stewardship Act, and bienni-  
5       ally thereafter, the Director of the Office, in con-  
6       sultation with the Governor of each Long Island  
7       Sound State, shall submit to Congress a report  
8       that—

9           “(A) summarizes and assesses the progress  
10      made by the Office and the Long Island Sound  
11      States in implementing the Long Island Sound  
12      Comprehensive Conservation and Management  
13      Plan, including an assessment of the progress  
14      made toward meeting the performance goals  
15      and milestones contained in the Plan;

16           “(B) assesses the key ecological attributes  
17      that reflect the health of the ecosystem of the  
18      Long Island Sound watershed;

19           “(C) describes any substantive modifica-  
20      tions to the Long Island Sound Comprehensive  
21      Conservation and Management Plan made dur-  
22      ing the 2-year period preceding the date of sub-  
23      mission of the report;

24           “(D) provides specific recommendations to  
25      improve progress in restoring and protecting

1           the Long Island Sound watershed, including, as  
2           appropriate, proposed modifications to the Long  
3           Island Sound Comprehensive Conservation and  
4           Management Plan;

5           “(E) identifies priority actions for imple-  
6           mentation of the Long Island Sound Com-  
7           prehensive Conservation and Management Plan  
8           for the 2-year period following the date of sub-  
9           mission of the report; and

10          “(F) describes the means by which Federal  
11           funding and actions will be coordinated with the  
12           actions of the Long Island Sound States and  
13           other entities.

14          “(2) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The Adminis-  
15           trator shall make the report described in paragraph  
16           (1) available to the public, including on the Internet.

17          “(g) ANNUAL BUDGET PLAN.—The President shall  
18           submit, together with the annual budget of the United  
19           States Government submitted under section 1105(a) of  
20           title 31, United States Code, information regarding each  
21           Federal department and agency involved in the protection  
22           and restoration of the Long Island Sound watershed, in-  
23           cluding—

24          “(1) an interagency crosscut budget that dis-  
25           plays for each department and agency—

1               “(A) the amount obligated during the pre-  
2               ceding fiscal year for protection and restoration  
3               projects and studies relating to the watershed;

4               “(B) the estimated budget for the current  
5               fiscal year for protection and restoration  
6               projects and studies relating to the watershed;  
7               and

8               “(C) the proposed budget for succeeding  
9               fiscal years for protection and restoration  
10              projects and studies relating to the watershed;  
11              and

12              “(2) a summary of any proposed modifications  
13              to the Long Island Sound Comprehensive Conserva-  
14              tion and Management Plan for the following fiscal  
15              year.

16              “(h) FEDERAL ENTITIES.—

17              “(1) COORDINATION.—The Administrator shall  
18              coordinate the actions of all Federal departments  
19              and agencies that impact water quality in the Long  
20              Island Sound watershed in order to improve the  
21              water quality and living resources of the watershed.

22              “(2) METHODS.—In carrying out this section,  
23              the Administrator, acting through the Director of  
24              the Office, may—

1               “(A) enter into interagency agreements;

2               and

3               “(B) make intergovernmental personnel  
4               appointments.

5               “(3) FEDERAL PARTICIPATION IN WATERSHED  
6               PLANNING.—A Federal department or agency that  
7               owns or occupies real property, or carries out activi-  
8               ties, within the Long Island Sound watershed shall  
9               participate in regional and subwatershed planning,  
10               protection, and restoration activities with respect to  
11               the watershed.

12               “(4) CONSISTENCY WITH COMPREHENSIVE CON-  
13               SERVATION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN.—To the max-  
14               imum extent practicable, the head of each Federal  
15               department and agency that owns or occupies real  
16               property, or carries out activities, within the Long  
17               Island Sound watershed shall ensure that the prop-  
18               erty and all activities carried out by the department  
19               or agency are consistent with the Long Island Sound  
20               Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan  
21               (including any related subsequent agreements and  
22               plans).”.

23               (b) LONG ISLAND SOUND STEWARDSHIP PRO-  
24               GRAM.—

1                             (1) LONG ISLAND SOUND STEWARDSHIP ADVI-  
2 SORY COMMITTEE.—Section 8 of the Long Island  
3 Sound Stewardship Act of 2006 (33 U.S.C. 1269  
4 note; Public Law 109–359) is amended—

5                             (A) in subsection (g), by striking “2011”  
6 and inserting “2020”; and

7                             (B) by adding at the end the following:

8                             “(h) NONAPPLICABILITY OF FACA.—The Federal  
9 Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not apply  
10 to—

11                             “(1) the Advisory Committee; or  
12                             “(2) any board, committee, or other group es-  
13 tablished under this Act.”.

14                             (2) REPORTS.—Section 9(b)(1) of the Long Is-  
15 land Sound Stewardship Act of 2006 (33 U.S.C.  
16 1269 note; Public Law 109–359) is amended in the  
17 matter preceding subparagraph (A) by striking  
18 “2011” and inserting “2020”.

19                             (3) AUTHORIZATION.—Section 11 of the Long  
20 Island Sound Stewardship Act of 2006 (33 U.S.C.  
21 1269 note; Public Law 109–359) is amended—

22                             (A) by striking subsection (a);  
23                             (B) by redesignating subsections (b)  
24 through (d) as subsections (a) through (c), re-  
25 spectively; and

(C) in subsection (a) (as so redesignated),  
by striking “under this section each” and in-  
serting “to carry out this Act for a”.

## **6 SEC. 3. REAUTHORIZATION.**

7       (a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appro-  
8 priated to the Administrator of the Environmental Protec-  
9 tion Agency such sums as are necessary for each of fiscal  
10 years 2015 through 2020 for the implementation of—

11                   (1) section 119 of the Federal Water Pollution  
12                   Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1269), other than subsection  
13                   (d) of that section; and

(2) the Long Island Sound Stewardship Act of 2006 (33 U.S.C. 1269 note; Public Law 109-359).

(b) LONG ISLAND SOUND GRANTS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to carry out section 119(d) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1269(d)) \$40,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2015 through 2020.

22 (c) LONG ISLAND SOUND STEWARDSHIP GRANTS.—  
23 There is authorized to be appropriated to the Adminis-  
24 trator of the Environmental Protection Agency to carry  
25 out the Long Island Sound Stewardship Act of 2006 (33

- 1 U.S.C. 1269 note; Public Law 109–359) \$25,000,000 for
- 2 each of fiscal years 2016 through 2020.

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